IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

App. No. 10/699,512 Confirmation No. 3570

Applicant Bennett, G.N.

Filed October 31, 2003

TC/A.U. 1637

Examiner Fredman, J.N.

Docket No. : 31175413-003002

Customer No. : 51738

Entitled RECOMBINATION ASSEMBLY OF LARGE DNA FRAGMENTS.

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF GEORGE N. BENNETT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.131

I, George N. Bennett, Declare as follows:

I am at least 18 years of age and am competent in all respects to make the following statements.

- 1. I am the sole inventor for claims 1-8 currently pending in US Patent Application No. 10/699,512.
- 2. The work presented in US Patent Application No. 10/699,512 was conceived prior to December 10, 1999.
- 3. Although the dates have been redacted, the attached laboratory PowerPoint presentation (Exhibit A) demonstrates the conception or practice of the invention prior to December 10, 1999.
- 4. Although the dates have been redacted, the attached laboratory notebook (Exhibit B) demonstrates the conception or practice of the invention prior to December 10, 1999.

App. No.: 10/699,512 Docket No.: 31175413-003002
Reply to Office Action mailed April 27, 2006 (PATENT)

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and made on information believed to be true; further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code; and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of any application for which it is used.

Dated: Der 3 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. George N

Dr. George N. Bennett, Ph.D.

Department Chair

Dept. of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

Rice University

Houston, TX